Review of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

101. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently, reviewed the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme for increasing the participation of farmers and to make the scheme more beneficial and efficient; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per the provisions of the scheme, a review of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has already been started after one year of its implementation. Initiating this process, a Conference of State Ministers for Agriculture was convened at New Delhi on 14.9.2000. Certain issues such as coverage of perennial crops, sharing of financial liabilities, constitution of Corpus Fund, implementation of scheme at Gram Panchayat unit area of insurance, limiting the sum insured, flexibility in seasonality discipline etc. were discussed.

Developing medicinal and aromatic plants

102. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central scheme for developing medicinal and aromatic plants is under implementation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tribals of the State are participating in this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the incentives being given to the tribals for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) A Central Scheme on Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants was initiated during the VIII Plan. The Scheme was approved for implementation during the Ninth Plan with an outlay of Rs. 14.50 crores. The Scheme was continued till the year 1999-2000 and with